

Remarks

The Office Action mailed December 14, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-5 and 7-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected. Claims 5 and 17 stand objected to. Claim 6 has been canceled.

The objection to the specification is respectfully traversed, particularly in view of the above Amendment.

By the above Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to clearly describe the mechanisms set forth in the Brief Description of the Invention section.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

The objection to Claim 5 due to a duplication of parts is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 was objected to as having a duplication of parts "a second second mechanism."

By the above amendment, Claim 5 has been amended and, thus, this objection is believed no longer applicable.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants request that the objection to Claim 5 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully traversed.

By the above amendment, Claim 17 has been amended and, thus, this objection is believed no longer applicable.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 112 rejection of Claim 17 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,367,641 to Mizutani (hereinafter referred to as "Mizutani") in view of U.S. Patent 3,421,351 to Newman et al. (hereinafter "Newman") is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to require “a spindle head including a pair of jaws engaging a first end of the ribbon of material along an axis; a first mechanism for moving said spindle head substantially parallel to the axis; and a second mechanism for rotating said pair of jaws about the axis with said first mechanism moving said spindle head substantially parallel to the axis, said second mechanism configured to operate independently from the operation of said first mechanism.”

Support for this amendment is found throughout Applicants’ specification, for example at paragraph [0015] through paragraph [0019].

Mizutani discloses a decorative molding that can be bent or twisted while being held in a stationary position between a feeding roll and a bending roll.

Unlike Applicants’ claimed invention, Mizutani does not disclose or suggest a first mechanism that moves the spindle head engaging the ribbon of material substantially parallel to the axis as a second mechanism rotates the pair of jaws about the axis. Further, Mizutani does not disclose or suggest the second mechanism configured to operate independently from the operation of the first mechanism.

The deficiencies of Mizutani are not overcome by Newman. Newman discloses a method for forming a bar screw wherein a bar is moved through a pair of grippers held in a stationary position with respect to an axis along which the bar is moved.

Unlike Applicants’ claimed invention, Newman does not disclose or suggest a spindle head including a pair of jaws that engage a first end of the ribbon of material along an axis. Further, Newman does not disclose or suggest a first mechanism that moves the spindle head engaging the ribbon of material substantially parallel to the axis as a second mechanism rotates the pair of jaws about the axis. Additionally, Newman does not disclose or suggest the second mechanism configured to operate independently from the operation of the first mechanism.

For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Mizutani in view of Newman.

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are considered in combination with the recitations of

Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-5 and 7-10 likewise are patentable over Mizutani in view of Newman.

Claim 11 has been amended to require “moving the spindle head engaging the first end of the material along an axis, wherein the movement is performed in a first movement pattern; and rotating the first end of the material about the axis as the spindle head is moved along the axis, wherein the rotation is performed in a second movement pattern, wherein the first movement pattern is different from the second movement pattern.”

As discussed above, Mizutani does not disclose or suggest moving the spindle head engaging the first end of the material along an axis as the first end of the material is rotated about the axis, as required by Applicants’ claimed invention. Further, Mizutani does not disclose or suggest a second movement pattern different from the first movement pattern, as required by Applicants’ claimed invention.

The deficiencies of Mizutani are not overcome by Newman. Unlike Applicants’ claimed invention, Newman does not disclose or suggest a spindle head including a pair of jaws that engage a first end of the ribbon of material along an axis. Further, Newman does not disclose or suggest moving the spindle head engaging the first end of the material along an axis as the first end of the material is rotated about the axis. Additionally, Newman does not disclose or suggest a second movement pattern different from the first movement pattern, as required by Applicants’ claimed invention.

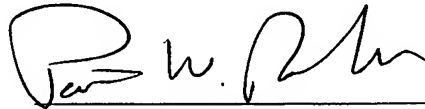
For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 11 is patentable over Mizutani in view of Newman.

Claims 12-20 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 11. When the recitations of Claims 12-20 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 11, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 12-20 likewise are patentable over Mizutani in view of Newman.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-20 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. W. Rasche', written over a horizontal line.

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